

Message Text

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63

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DRAFTED BY S/S:W. LUERS

APPROVED BY S/S-O:G. TWOHIE

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 037322

TOSEC 24

FOL REPEAT CAIRO 0889 SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO AMMAN

BEIRUT GENEVA MOSCOW TEL AVIV USUN FEB 25

QTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 0889

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, US, UR, EG

SUBJ: TASS OFFICIAL'S COMMENTS ON US/SOVIET RELATIONS

AND ME

ON FEBRUARY 23, DEPUTY TASS DIRECTOR YEDRASHNIKOV POINTEDLY
REMARKED TO USINTOFF THAT IN THE LONG RUN, US/SOVIET RELATIONS
WERE MORE IMPORTANT THAN THAT OF US OR USSR WITH THIRD COUNTRY.
HE NOTED THAT SOVIETS HAD GIVEN CONSIDERABLE SUPPORT TO EGYPT
IN THE PAST FEW YEARS, BUT HAD RECEIVED VIRTUALLY NO RECOGNITION
FOR IT. NOW SOVIETS WERE ATTEMPTING TO BE HELPFUL WITH ME
SETTLEMENT HERE, TOO, HAD RECEIVED VIRTUALLY NO RECOGNITION
FOR THEIR ASSISTANCE. YEDRASHNIKOV SAID THAT THIS WAS THE
US'S MOMENT IN THE MIDDLE EAST, AND PARTICULARLY IN EGYPT:
THE FLOW OF POLITICS IN THE AREA WAS CLEARLY IN THE DIRECTION
OF THE UNITED STATES NEVERTHELESS, HE SAID THAT HE THOUGHT
IT WAS IMPORTANT TO THE US/SOVIET BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP
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THAT SOME EXPLICIT AND "FORMAL" NOTE BE TAKEN OF THE SOVIET

ROLE IN HELPING TOWARDS A SETTLEMENT.

ELITS

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